Committee Members in Attendance:
   Cathy Beise, Stephen Ford, Sam Geleta, Marcy Losonczy-Marshall, Melissa Thomas, Jerry Waldron

Guests in Attendance:
   Natalie Hopson, Betty Lou Smith, Chris Egan

The topic of discussion was “clickers in the classroom.” Faculty interested in using this new technology were invited to attend the meeting.

Dr. Natalie Hopson obtained a mentoring grant, through which she was able to supply the technology needed to employ this in the classroom. She has been using clickers in the classroom since fall of 2006. She discussed how it operated, and said that the only problem she has had has been replacing batteries in the clickers. The cost adds up.

Other faculty who have also been using clickers in the classroom are Dr. Karen Papke-Shields, Dr. Regina Royer, and Dr. Frank Shipper.

The system which all of the faculty have been using is Turning Point. This particular one was chosen because it is the one being used at University of Maryland College Park, and it is the system that is used in Wicomico County Schools.

What is required is a receiver, which plugs into a USB port, software that is loaded onto the computer in the classroom, as well as the clickers. One receiver can accommodate 250 students at a time.

At this pilot stage, the clickers are loaned to the students free of charge for use in the classroom. Instructors have been carrying the clickers to class. However, in the future, if more faculty use this technology, students could buy one clicker and use it in various classes across different disciplines and schools. If more faculty use this technology, it would be good to have a university standard, so that students could only buy one clicker and use it in many different classes. The task of this committee is to investigate the technologies and give a recommendation about which would be the best one for SU to use. That decision would be based on a number of factors, including various features with different brands, cost, whether or not a license is cheaper if we use the same one as UMCP, etc.

Piloting a couple of different brands was discussed. Melissa Thomas circulated a paper with different companies that offer this technology. Jerry Waldron mentioned the possibility of equipping certain classrooms with this technology. Different classrooms were discussed. Currently, it is being used in DH 123, DH 205, HH 114, HH 117, HH 118, and the Honors House. Faculty teaching in those rooms are carrying the receivers and clickers with them to class each time. Jerry would like to equip specific rooms as “clicker rooms.” Rooms that would be good for this were discussed and it was decided that HS 243, FH 134, and FH 142 would be good rooms for piloting various models. Jerry Waldron will contact 3 different companies and discuss the possibility of them letting SU use the technology for one semester without cost for evaluation purposes. Melissa Thomas will investigate who is teaching in HS 243, FH 134 and FH 142; those faculty will have an opportunity to try this new technology in those classrooms.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Marcy Losonczy-Marshall